



Quick Notes

from the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

November 5, 2012

Mark your calendar for the **Highway Safety Summit** in Coeur d'Alene, ID on **May 1-2, 2013**.

Idaho Transportation Department - PO Box 7129 – Boise, ID 83707-1129
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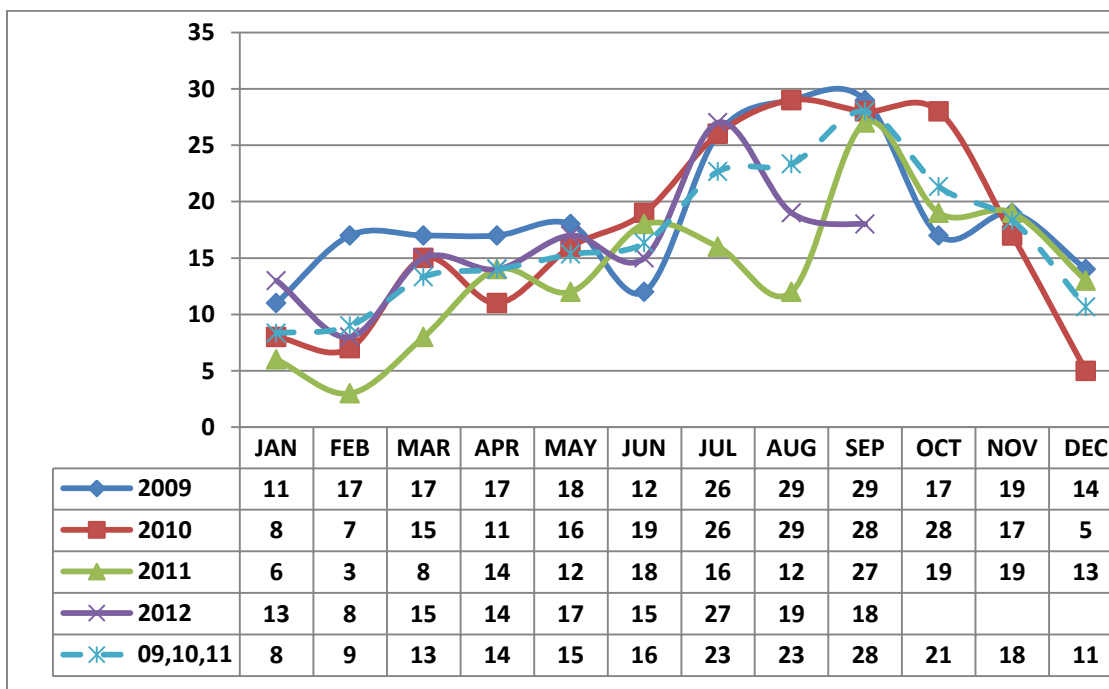
Fatalities for 2012 = 161

General Message from the Highway Safety Manager

Hi Highway Safety Partners:

As we see the end of 2012 on the horizon, I am often asked how Idaho is doing with regard to fatalities on our roadways. Shown below is a chart that shows our fatalities through September 2012 and a comparison with the three prior years and an average of those prior years. In 2012 Idaho started out rough, but in the last two months we have realized some gains. In 2011 Idaho experienced a record low fatal number of 167. Given that our State had not been below 200 since 1956, this was great news indeed.

Although 2012 will not see fatalities less than 167, our goal is to find ourselves below 200. Doing so continues the downward trend of our five-year average. Rather than be discouraged, please join me in celebrating the gains that continue to be made as we move onward *Toward Zero Deaths*.



Brent Jennings, PE
Highway Safety Manager
brent.jennings@itd.idaho.gov

Youthful Drivers

"Beyond an understanding of the biological and environmental interactions that characterize adolescent brain development in general, researchers are teasing apart the details behind individual differences: why only some teens are risk takers, only some of the time. Their answers could help us develop strategies to buffer this vital and vulnerable stage of development against serious harm."

[View more](#)

Alive at 25

As coordinator for the *Alive at 25* program, I am excited to work with law enforcement officers who dedicate overtime hours presenting this program. These officers are making great progress toward raising traffic safety awareness for young adults' (ages 15-24). Below are two emails from instructors on the classes:

Officer Thomas Gearrey, from the Nampa Police Department, reported this month on an attendee who recently completed a class.

"Mark rides a motorcycle and prior to the class did not wear a helmet, but does now after facts presented during the class. Mark was hit by a truck and thrown from his motorcycle. After the impact, Mark hit his head hard on the ground. Mark believes that if he had not been wearing his helmet, he might not have walked away with only the bumps and bruises sustained. Mark thanked me for changing his mindset about being safe. . .because without his helmet, he probably would not be here."

Sgt. John Gonzales, from the Meridian Police Department, forwarded on a recent email he received. "You recently held one of your Alive at 25 classes. One of Bobby's friends was in the class (he had been issued a seat belt ticket since Bobby's accident). I spoke with him about the class. He said it was very graphic and showed some very vivid examples of what happens when people don't wear their seat belts and engage in other risky behaviors. He definitely is wearing his seat belt now. Thank you for saving another kids' life." Sheri and Duke Rogers

"After talking with the family, I had to take a pause and reflect on the reason I do what I do and how my recent focus has been on youth safety."

We often wonder if traffic safety presentations work, because we do not often hear responses. It is a powerful message and I thank you to all Alive at 25 instructors for your presentations of Alive at 25. Margaret Goertz

Youthful Drivers in MAP-21

Read more on a teen's view of traffic safety and opportunities new federal funding (MAP-21) offer teens to help mold the future of issues and become part of the solution in traffic safety:

<http://www.grandforksherald.com/event/article/id/246015/group/homepage/>

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

2011-2012 Changing the Culture of Traffic Safety

Traffic safety involves managing many factors, including vehicles, roadways, environmental conditions, drivers, and other road users. Finding opportunities where change and knowledge can lead to safety gains and risk reduction for each of these focuses areas is fundamental to the AAA Foundation's mission.

Through the Center of Excellence, the AAA Foundation focuses on four key areas where new research and innovative approaches can lead to safer roads. To view the complete report, follow this link [AAA Foundation Centers of Excellence](#)

Drinking, Driving Drops by Half Among Teens: CDC

But almost 1 million a month still do, agency says

October 2, 2012

By Steven Reinberg -*HealthDay Reporter*

TUESDAY, Oct. 2 (HealthDay News) -- The number of U.S. teenagers who drink and drive dropped by more than half from 1991 to 2011, federal health officials said Tuesday.

Nine out of 10 high school students age 16 and over said they did not drink and drive in 2011, according to

the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This represents a decline of 54 percent over two decades.

"There is good news in some of the data here," CDC director Dr. Thomas Frieden said during a noon press conference Tuesday. Click to see the [full article](#).

TEENS DRIVING TEENS IS A DEADLY RECIPE

A new AAA study confirms that the prevalence of risky behaviors among 16- and 17-year-old drivers involved in fatal crashes increases when teen passengers are in the car. Specifically, the prevalence of speeding, late-night driving and alcohol use go up with each additional passenger. The details are spelled out in the attached release.

An analysis of fatalities for this age group in the U.S. from 2005-2010 confirms what many have suspected for years, namely that mixing young drivers with teen passengers can have dangerous consequences.

This release includes an Idaho perspective, which you may find useful for your readers, listeners or viewers. Again, spelled out in the release itself, AAA Idaho's examination of Gem State crash data a year ago shows there have been periodic declines in the number of

fatal and injury crashes. But much of that decline is attributed to the fact that there are fewer licensed drivers in this age group now.

However, crash involvement – the rate at which drivers are likely to be killed or injured, based on the size of the driving public they represent – shows teens are the most overrepresented age group in Idaho.

This is also a wakeup call for greater parental involvement and an examination of our graduated driver licensing programs to see just how well they're working.

Read the full report [here](#). AAA's teen driving website TeenDriving.AAA.com can help parents and teens through every step in the driving process.

Child Passenger Safety Resource Guide 2012

In recognition of the recent Child Passenger Safety Week, September 16-22, 2012, CSN has updated our resource guide on child passenger safety. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, motor vehicle-related injuries are the leading cause of death for children from 3 to 14 years old.

To help state Maternal and Child Health and Injury and Violence Prevention programs address the important issue of child passenger safety, [this guide](#) contains data, research articles, updates on policy and legislation, evidence-based prevention strategies, tools for program planning, and a list of national organizations that address child passenger safety.



Pedestrian & Bicyclist Safety Program



Congratulations to our partner agencies for completing the “Pedestrian and Bicyclist Law Enforcement Training” held in Northern Idaho. Participating agencies included Kootenai County Sheriff, Post Falls Police, Nez Perce Tribe Police, and Coeur d’Alene Police. These agencies join our partners from Nampa, Rexburg, McCall, and Boise police who are now eligible to receive funding for educational and mobilization efforts!

Idaho crash data for 2009-2011 indicates the majority of crashes involving pedestrians (82%) and bicyclists (87%) occur on urban roadways with the most occurring in the following five counties: Ada, Canyon, Bannock, Kootenai, and Twin Falls.

Pedestrian and bicyclist safety can be perceived as a low priority but if we are going to **eliminate** deaths on Idaho’s roads....**every life counts** toward zero deaths. For more information contact Donna Vasquez at (208)334-8102 or at donna.vasquez@itd.idaho.gov



AGGRESSIVE DRIVING

Mature drivers are not likely to be aggressive drivers, however when other drivers speed or follow-too-close, they are less likely to be prepared for the unexpected if a mature driver has a gap in judgment or “senior moment” when driving.

A large study from Canada found that when doctors warn patients, and tell driving authorities, that the older folks may be medically unfit to be on the road, there's a drop in serious crash injuries among those drivers.



"The message from this paper is that doctors have some wisdom in knowing when to restrict drivers," said Dr. Matthew Rizzo of the University of Iowa. His own research shows some cognitive tests might help them better identify who's at risk, such as by measuring "useful field of view," essentially how much your brain gleans at a glance — important for safety in intersections.

Today, the American Medical Association recommends that doctors administer a few simple tests in advising older drivers. Click here to [read the full story](#).

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

A story in the US Army's Defense Video and Imagery Distribution Systems, says that motorcycle safety is especially important to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, because of the number of motorcycle fatalities among paratroopers.

"Other than combat, motorcycles are the single biggest killer of our Paratroopers in this division," said Col. Michael Fenzel, commander of 3rd BCT.

"I think our brigade already has the best motorcycle safety plan in the entire division, and possibly the Army." As the nation's Global Response Force, the "Panther Brigade" must be ready to send its Paratroopers anywhere in the world to help resolve any conflict with minimal notice. Each Paratrooper in the brigade must be able to support that mission, and that means being safe and responsible in every environment and situation, said Chris McKnight, the brigade safety officer. Click here to [read the full story](#).

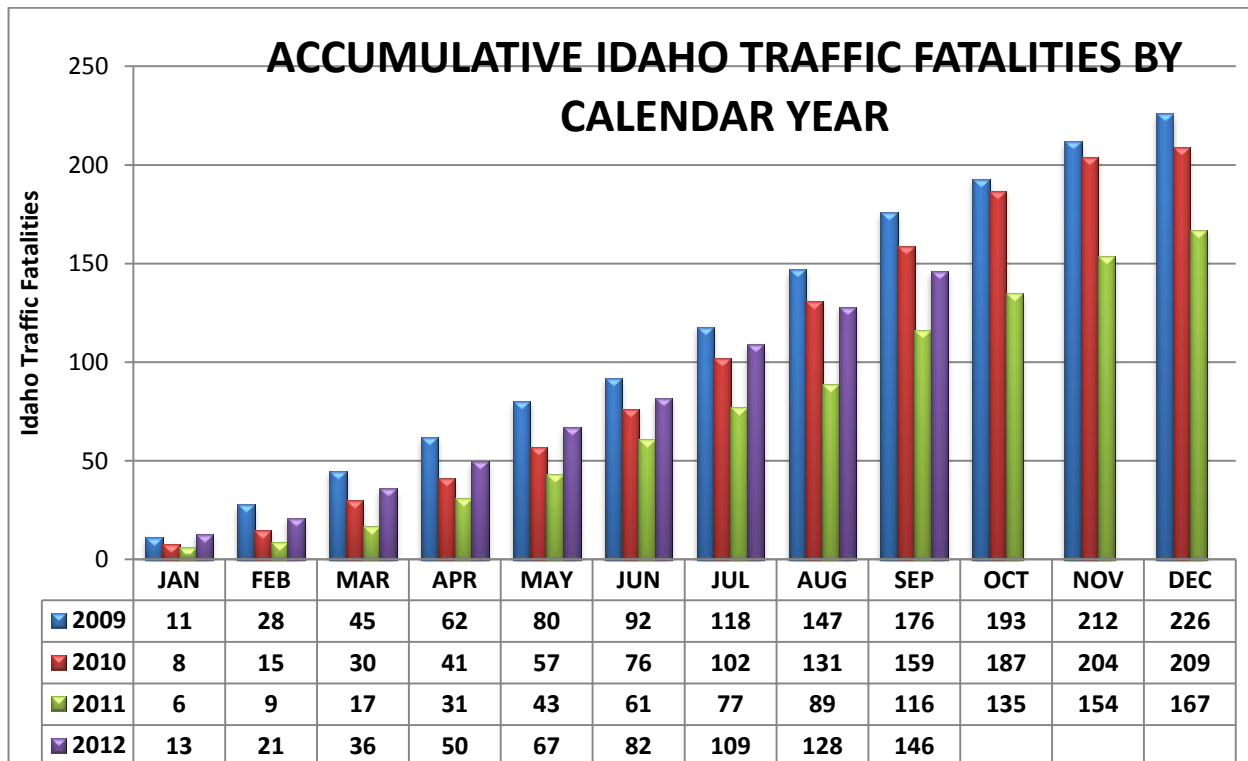


In Idaho, motorcycle safety training has shown an 89% reduction in the risk of a fatal crash, according to the **STAR** Program. Click here to download **STAR's** [Get The Facts](#) information card.

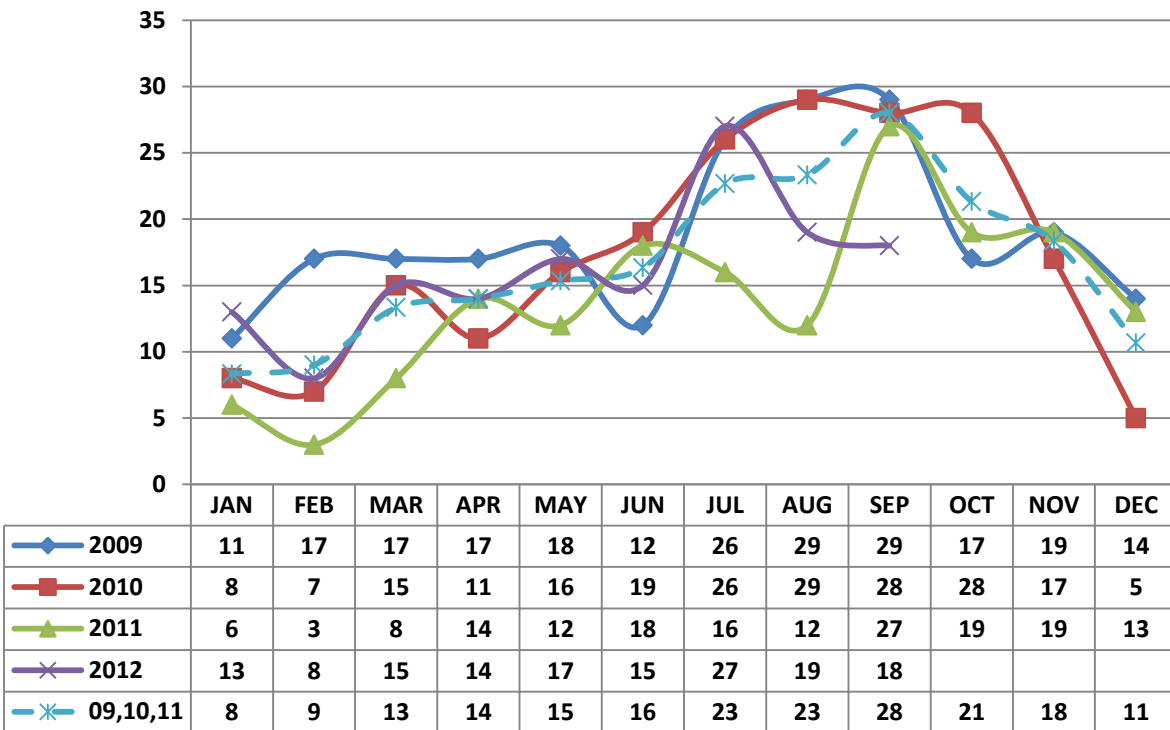
DAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
Fatalities By the Month*
SEPTEMBER 2012

MONTH						CUMULATIVE TOTALS			
	Actual	Actual	Actual	09,10,11	Actual	Cumulative (09,10,11,12)			
	2009	2010	2011	AVERAGE	2012	2009	2010	2011	2012
JAN	11	8	6	8	13	11	8	6	13
FEB	17	7	3	9	8	28	15	9	21
MAR	17	15	8	13	15	45	30	17	36
APR	17	11	14	14	14	62	41	31	50
MAY	18	16	12	15	17	80	57	43	67
JUN	12	19	18	16	15	92	76	61	82
JUL	26	26	16	23	27	118	102	77	109
AUG	29	29	12	23	19	147	131	89	128
SEP	29	28	27	28	18	176	159	116	146
OCT	17	28	19	21		193	187	135	
NOV	19	17	19	18		212	204	154	
DEC	14	5	13	11		226	209	167	
YEAR TO DATE	226	209	167	201	146				

*Data limitations: This report is based on information provided by law enforcement agencies on crashes resulting in a death that occurs within 30 days of the crash. Data is preliminary and is subject to change. Totals of this report are the number of persons killed. Averages are rounded.



IDAHO MONTHLY TRAFFIC FATALITIES



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you would like to add an event to the calendar, please send an e-mail with the event details to lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov

Date	Event Description, Location
Nov 10	Alive at 25 , Rexburg City Hall, www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 10	Alive at 25 , Nampa Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 10	Alive at 25 , Meridian Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 12	Alive at 25 , Boise Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 17 – 25	Impaired Driving Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
Nov 19	Alive at 25 , Meridian Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 29	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 1	Alive at 25 , Meridian Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 1	Alive at 25 , Cassia County Sheriff's Office, www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 17 – Jan 2	Impaired Driving – Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
2013	HAPPY NEW YEAR
Jan 25	Alive at 25 , Cascade School District, www.idsafedriver.org
Feb 8 – 17	Seat Belt – Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
March 10 – 18	Impaired Driving - Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
April 5-14	Aggressive Driving – Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
May 1-2, 2013	HIGHWAY SAFETY SUMMIT – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
May 20 – June 2	Seat Belt – Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
June 29 – July 12	Impaired Driving - Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
July 19 – Aug 4	Aggressive Driving – Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
Aug 7-12	Bicycle/Pedestrian – Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
Aug 25 – Sept 8	Impaired Driving - Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization

Quick Reference Guide – click on the topic to go directly to website.

[OHS](#), Office of Highway Safety

[ITD](#), Idaho Transportation Department

[NHTSA](#), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[FHWA](#), Federal Highway Administration

[2011 Idaho Crash Report](#)

Program Area	Idaho State Links	Federal Links
Impaired Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Impaired
Distracted Driving	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/DistractedDriving.htm	http://distraction.gov/
Teen Drivers	http://www.idahoteendriving.org/	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Teen-Drivers
Bike & Pedestrian Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/bike_ped/index_new2.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Pedestrians http://www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles
Seat Belt Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/ClickIt/ClickIt2.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Occupant+Protection
Child Passenger Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/ChildSafety/index.html	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/CPS
Aggressive Driving	http://itd.idaho.gov/ohs/Aggressive.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Aggressive
Motorcycles	www.idahostar.org	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/Motorcycles
Senior/Mature Drivers		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Senior-Drivers
Lane Departure	http://itd.idaho.gov/info/home_articles/safety_plan.htm	http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept